

# The Nation's Greatest Feast Day

ONCE more the liberal year laughs out  
O'er richer stores than gems of gold;  
Once more with harvest song and shout  
Is Nature's greatest triumphs told.



MAKING FOR THANKSGIVING

**T**HANKSGIVING DAY! Personally it conjures up visions of roast turkey and plum pudding and pies and all that go to make it an annual occasion of feasting; historically one sees "pilgrims on a rock-bound coast" and, invariably, it is regarded as about the oldest national holiday of the land! As a matter of fact it is the youngest! Practically every yearly observance of a patriotic nature is more ancient than the celebrating of Thanksgiving day as a regular official ceremony.

It is so customary in America for one person to do the pioneering and another to get the credit that it is no surprise to learn that even the Mayflower band were really not entitled to all the praise as original thanksgivers, which they have been receiving ever since 1620. Not that there is anything disparaging to be uttered about those stern moralists—who seem to have been adepts in loading a cargo of furniture that would tax an ocean liner into a little sailing ship!

They were brave and they deserve the nation's remembrance. But 13 years before they landed at Plymouth a group of future colonists had stood on American soil and given thanks at their deliverance from the perils of the sea.

This was on Sunday, August 9, 1607, at the island of Monhegan and an English minister and a priest jointly conducted a service of thanksgiving. The twin ships, Mary and John, and the fly boat, Gift of God, found their way to the island after a long, terrible voyage of storms and helplessness. They had neither turkey, nor cranberry sauce, but there was never a more genuine Thanksgiving day.

This was along the coast of Maine and yet Massachusetts has, through all the years, been honored among states as the home of the first Thanksgiving service.

Of course the Bay state may be said to have taken the idea and in the words of a capitalist, "developed it and put it on a paying basis." In Massachusetts such a day was set apart for special services, continuing from the time the Pilgrim Fathers first landed. But, without meaning to be facetious, it is obvious that these common sense folk never believed in giving thanks unless they had something to be thankful for.

Thus, in 1633, 13 years after the landing at Plymouth, the governor of that state officially appointed a day of thanks and another in the year following. But then there was a jump of three years during which the colonists did not celebrate. Why? Certain historians insist it was because they were "lean" years. If so, they must have been followed by three "fat" ones, as the day was observed regularly until 1639.

Again an interval of faithful 13 years and then, in 1652, the governor once more declared in favor of Thanksgiving. In 1680 the day was set apart as an annual state holiday and has been ever since.

But only New York adopted the practice of having such a day until well into the eighteenth century! As early as 1644 the Dutch governor of New York issued an official proclamation for a day of thanksgiving, but it was not followed each year—varying probably with the governor's ideas or the conditions of the crops. Like the famous pagan feast of autumn, it originally was meant chiefly as a public offering of prayer in gratitude for the bountiful output of grain and fruits which would see the settlers through the winter.

The other states were being more slowly settled and in Maryland and Virginia there was not so much of a strong religious atmosphere noticeable as a debonnaire enthusiasm for whatever of the good things of life could be had.

The day was observed but not officially. And always, in the south, it was a day of feasting. From the time slavery entered the land the Maryland or Virginia colonist pictured Thanksgiving dinner as a scene of expectant waiting diners and a round grinning black face to the rear of the huge roast turkey on a platter.

About the time of the struggle of '76 it came into its own as a regular holiday and in 1789 was, for the first time, declared a holiday by congress and so observed. So that, really, it is quite a youthful, immature holiday after all!

## REVIVING AN OLD DEVICE

Caves of Refuge Have Been an Institution as Long as There is History.

Refuge caves are now being proposed as a means of saving life in coal mines. The idea is to have in each mine one or more caves dug out of the solid coal or rock from one of the main passages of the mine. The entrance to the cave from the main passageway would be a long, narrow

FILLING FOR THANKSGIVING PIES



THE BIRD OF THE DAY

TO MAKE HAPPY HEARTS AMONG THE POOR

Gradually, as the free air and broadmindedness of this time began to leaven the burning dogmas of the Pilgrims, the fasting of the day was tempered by moderate feasting. People ceased partaking in solemn silence of a meal just about the same as that served on Sunday—on which day of the week all early Thanksgiving used to be observed—and had a few friends or relations in to help give proper thanks. This necessitated more elaborate preparations and what the college-bred young man of the household today would term "a bigger feed."

It would not be correct to dine in everyday clothes when guests were present, so elaborate costumes came into vogue for the occasion. Many guests came from a long distance—maiden sitting demurely behind men riders on horseback, or else in clumsy old road-coaches. It was not hospitable to suggest that these return the same day. So started the country house party which still flourishes wherever there is a hostess, a house in the country and a fireplace.

For weeks beforehand preparations for the great day went on. Especially at a place like Mount Vernon did Thanksgiving almost outweigh Christmas in culinary importance—which was as it should be since the host of Mount Vernon signed the first official proclamation making Thanksgiving a holiday. And always the turkey has been its emblem—just as the eagle is of freedom. Like the Indian it is typically American.

Of course with such tempting menus as turkey, roast pig, home-cured hams and mince and pumpkin pies—to say nothing of imported plum pudding—feasting rapidly took the place of abstinence. And it is remarkable that amid all the changes of this vast country during the past 123 years that menu has remained practically unchanged. Everywhere in America on this Thanksgiving day—save in the homes of the poor and the multi-millionaire—turkey and cranberry sauce will have places of importance and be served from the table. The high cost of living debars the city poor from much turkey and the ultra-rich have long since determined that a few thin ungrazed slices of white meat are sufficient to introduce amid the various cosmopolitan dishes of the meal.

Back in revolutionary days no such thought troubled the mistress of the governor's mansion at Albany, the exclusive hostess of Boston, or the chateleine of a Virginia estate. There was only one proper place for the huge golden-brown, savory and beautiful turkey—and that was the exact middle of whatever end of the table was designated "head." No courses annoyed the guests and irritated eager juveniles. The dinner services had to be extensive and complete. Dinner was served at midday and began with a soup, taken from an immense tureen placed before the hostess. She ladled it out into soup plates, whose death would astound a fastidious diner of today. All over the broad expanse of white cloth were various dishes and plates and cruetes and receptacles for needed seasonings.

Nor were these of a thickness meant to endure rather than charm the eye. Gazing upon a collection of them now at the National Museum at Washington one marvels what magic of housewifery skill ever prevented their breakage. Where is the bride of yesterday who can point today to an intact after-dinner coffee set—much less that sufficient for a dinner party? Yet these are displayed in all the purity of outline and quaintness of a long gone period, bringing very near to the visitor the era of genuine hospitality.

In those revolutionary Thanksgivings there was no time to hastily wash certain dishes and use them over again. Everything had to be where it was in evidence all the time. And one

ther by small bore holes to the surface, such as are not uncommon in coal mines, or by pipe lines—built so as to be explosion-proof—running through the mine passages. The cave connected with the surface by a bore hole could be supplied with air freely, and kept in touch with the surface by a telephone, and food could be sent down through the hole.

A cave connected by a conduit through the mine could also have a telephonic communication with the surface, but it would be necessary in

can vividly picture the powdered hair of the grown-ups, the eager faces of the youngsters, the grinning darkies in the south, or cheery white "help" of the north.

At the museum imagination is stimulated by a sight of the very garments and jewels worn at Thanksgiving dinners just about the time the holiday received its christening as a national event. Dainty and suggestive of the beauty of youth is a pale blue ribbed silk empire gown with short puffed sleeves, a cobwebby white hand embroidered kerchief and a plain fall of wide skirt. Near it are the ridiculously little high-heeled white satin shoes, the gay colored fan, immense tortoise shell combs and gold beads and miniature locket worn by the revolutionary maiden.

Looking at her footgear one smiles in reminiscence of the fairy tales of grandmothers who always insist upon the sensibleness of the way THEIR grandmothers dressed. A flaming red cloak, with Red Riding Hood cape, and a beautiful beaded hand bag completed the toilette in which the girl probably rode many miles horseback with her arms, clasped tight around the body of a male relative, or perhaps rested warmly inside one of the lumbering road coaches which the museum contains. From a family long famed in history comes down a rarely beautiful gold engraved snuff box and lace wristlets and handkerchiefs, which the owner was wont to display on such occasions as that of a stately Thanksgiving. In every detail of china and silver the costumes there is evidenced this suggestion of dignity and caste.

And yet, very gay and festive must have appeared a gathering of well-known folk of the late revolutionary period, when Thanksgiving was sufficiently new as a national holiday to be observed with particular enthusiasm.

A complete full dress costume of a man of affairs of Maryland, displayed behind glass at the museum, reveals the dandyism prevailing. The knee breeches are of corded tan silk, with gem encrusted buckles; the coat, of the same material, is on the frock variety—with many plaits at the back, self-covered buttons and a high turnover collar of the Robespierre style. The gloves, silken hose, three-cornered hat and caped great coat are all delicate of texture and in marked contrast to the somber garb now thought appropriate for wear at a Thanksgiving dinner.

But it was not all "beer and skittles" then! Amid the display of old mahogany table, candelabra, cushioned dining chairs and array of costly old china and glass used on Thanksgiving days at Mount Vernon is the camp outfit of George Washington from which he partook of so many frugal meals.

One distressing winter of the struggle he ate his Thanksgiving dinner "in the field" and it is recorded that he had nothing except the regulation soldierly provender.

His little camp chest still contains the numerous pewter forks and spoons and dishes that served him in lieu of silver and porcelain. Over a fire that could be built in the open one pictures bread being toasted for him on the iron toaster which is still intact. There were bottles of seasonings, such as salt and pepper and a few shallow pewter plates.

If ever one needed faith in order to be thankful it was then, and yet he who issued the first national proclamation of Thanksgiving came through it to leave a visible evidence that not all early Thanksgiving dinners were sumptuous feasts.

At least, though, they were events—not merely annual meals—regarded by the very rich of today as a maudlin tribute to the national spirit and by the very poor as a merciful pause in the starvation of winter.

This case to keep a quantity of concentrated food and some water stored in the chamber. Supplies of medical first-aid materials and a pulmotor for reviving miners overcome by gases could also be kept in the cave to advantage.—Saturday Evening Post.

**The Reason.**  
"Why are you so fond of going to church?"  
"It's so comforting to see one man keep so many women quiet for a whole hour."

## NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

### Militiamen Spurn Department's Plea to Be Cooks

WASHINGTON.—Biscuits and pies! These two delightful edibles are

proving obstacles to the United States war department, and it all comes of the efforts of the authorities to get brave and gallant militiamen interested in the art of cooking.

Recently congress supplied funds to be used in instructing militia officers in the art of mixing dough and preparing pie crust so it could be cut with an ordinary knife. War department heads expected their action would meet with popular approval, and that the militiamen would crowd one another in their haste to take up domestic science.

They were sadly mistaken. Not a single officer volunteered, in fact, there was a marked hesitancy on the part of the men to become cooks. Schools for bakers and cooks, maintained by the war department with a view to teaching the men sanitary

food values have gone without pupils as a consequence.

Much speculation as to the attitude of the militia officers has been indulged in by the department heads, with little satisfaction. Some have ventured the opinion that flour and dough might soil their glistening uniforms, and the fact that they are employed in the kitchen might lessen their majesty in front of the fair sex at social events. The government as an inducement has offered to keep secret the list of men who apply for kitchen instruction, and as to the other objection, aprons would, of course, be provided while the pupil mixes dough.

Aside from the ability to mix flour and water, the military requirements for entrance to the "Biscuit College" demand that a budding officer-cook must be of sound health and good moral character. Incidentally in setting forth the requirements, the militia division bars officers above the rank of colonel.

The appeal for officer-cooks, however, is genuine, and if there is any militia member in Cleveland who is anxious to excel in the finest art the world has known, confer a favor upon a perplexed war department and write at once.

### United in Wedlock in Capitol Grotto Grounds

RECOLLECTIONS of what blissful effect entrance to the little sylvan grotto in the United States capitol grounds, with its sweet secluded water and its woeless isolation, had "when love was young," came to the front in the minds of hundreds of married and single Washingtonians the other day, with the announcement that Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Wilson Scruggs, the latter formerly Miss Florence Leger, had been married in the grotto.

Cupid simply reversed his tactics regarding the grotto, which is sometimes known as "The Temple of Romance" in the cases of the Legers. Ordinarily one might say in all cases heretofore, in all romances at least—the little love god has lured the prospective lovers to the grotto, and there sowed the seed of love or driven homo his darts to the gurgling sound of the little fountains within the retreat and the nestling of the ivy that covers the bower. Instead of beginning this last romance there he established a precedent and brought it to a culmination in the precincts of the little place.

Out of the myriad of brides and grooms that annually visit the capitol



and saunter through its grounds at least nine out of ten couples pause on entering the ideal love-making bower, to reconnoiter to see if anyone else is within dangerous proximity, and then—well, everybody who has been there knows.

Mrs. Scruggs, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Leger of this city, conceived the idea of being married in the popular little grotto. In company with Leland Leger, her brother, and the Rev. Dr. Thompson, pastor of the Vaughn M. E. church, the couple went to the grotto and were quietly married. Following the ceremony the couple and the bride's parents and two brothers went to Great Falls on a little picnic. Mr. and Mrs. Scruggs will make their home in Mississippi.

### Many Undraped Scarecrows in Military Service

CAPT. Harold W. Jones, of the Army Medical Corps, has made an investigation of the physical characteristics of recruits accepted for the army since the Civil war, as shown by the medical records and according to these records it seems that the standard of recruits is deteriorating.

The measurements of 500 recruits were examined, and it is shown that the percentage of strong men enlisted is by far the lowest at the present day, only 33 per cent. as against 57 per cent. in 1875. The men considered weak at the present time are 43 per cent. as against 19 per cent. in 1875.

Attention is called to the fact that the percentage of foreign-born recruits has fallen from more than 60 per cent. to about 9 per cent., and it is suggested that many of the recruits obtained

years ago were hardy German and Irish emigrants of stocky build, which may account for the great difference in the percentage of strong men in the army now.

Many recruits from the country districts of Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi are found to be ill fed and under weight, and Capt. Jones states that the universal custom of waiving several pounds under the minimum weight "gets many an undraped scarecrow into the service."

Capt. Jones further says: "We must take the figures cautiously. As I have said, I think there is no doubt that we are getting a different type of man in the service today from what we got years ago. He may be just as good and he may have more brains, but he does not seem to have as much brawn. Whether the present-day recruit would last as well under the old conditions of hard frontier service, with sanitary conditions far inferior to those of the present time, is hard to say, but I think it doubtful if he would. The high percentage of strong men in 1876 to 1879 may be due to the fact that recruiting, at least in this part of the country, was not very active then, and the army could pick its men, accepting only the hardest and the best."

### Real Babies Engaged for School Girls to Nurse

GENUINE experience in housework, housekeeping, cooking, and care of babies is to be part of the domestic science course of the grade school girls of Washington. Real babies are to be loaned for the course, and—what's more—real babies are to be furnished for demonstration purposes. These plans for making the school courses in domestic science more practical and instructive are owing to impetus given by Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, who is prominent in all social service endeavors in the capital.

The present prospect is for two of these houses. One is a modern cottage connected with the Noel house. The other is an alley house, under the supervision of Neighborhood house settlement.

Girls taking the domestic science courses in the schools will hold classes at these houses a number of times each week, when they will be given the opportunity to do all kinds of housework under the eyes of capable instructors. They will keep the houses clean, make the curtains, the bedding, the towels, and various other articles that enter into the composition of the regular home.

They will be taught to cook food upon the regulation stove, to keep the



larder properly supplied, and the dishes and pots and pans in correct condition and arrangement. And, then, the demonstration baby!

This baby, Mrs. John P. S. Neligh says, will be borrowed for the occasion. For the Neighborhood house classes it will be borrowed from the day nursery connected with the settlement. Upon this baby all the mysteries of caring for his kind, and for making them healthy and happy, will be demonstrated.

The children will be taught to bathe the baby. They will learn to make its clothes, to dress it, feed it, and other things that are done in the interests of a baby's comfort. They will be shown how to properly modify its milk. In short, the little girls will have a baby perfectly, scientifically, and naturally explained to them.

### Money in Tea Plantations.

In favorable locations tea can be produced in Ceylon at the cost of about eight cents a pound, ready for shipment to foreign markets. It usually sells for about 15 cents a pound at the local auctions, and the best situated and best managed plantations make 100 per cent. or more on the capital invested.

### Jury Qualifications.

The fact that a man has read newspaper accounts of a case does not make him ineligible to serve on a jury, but it is sometimes urged as an objection to his so serving. Nor does the fact that he has formed an opinion disqualify him—unless he admits that the opinion is so strong that it cannot be changed by evidence offered.

## ANOTHER GOOD YEAR IN WESTERN CANADA

MANITOBA, SASKATCHEWAN AND ALBERTA HAVE SPLENDID CROPS.

The results of the threshing throughout Western Canada shows a more wonderful yield than usual of wheat, oats, barley and flax, all of which was harvested and threshed in perfect order. Not only was the average yield excellent over the entire country, but the quality was of the highest standard. Without going into figures, it is sufficient to say that wheat graded almost universally very near the top. Reports are to hand showing yields of wheat from many fields which averaged forty bushels per acre, and weighing 65 pounds to the measured bushel. Oats were very heavy, running from fifty to one hundred and fifteen bushels to the acre. Barley also was a very heavy yielder and kept up the reputation of Western Canada as a producer of that cereal. In many parts of the country the yield of flax exceeded the earlier expectations, but in other parts, there was some loss on account of winds blowing off the boll. Hundreds of farmers who have only been in the country three or four years, with but little means when they arrived, will, out of the crop of this year, clean up all their indebtedness, and be able to put something aside for further improvements on their farms and homes which are now freed of incumbrance. The writer has just heard of the experience of a man in the Battleford district that is worth repeating. He went to the district seven or eight years ago, with no money, worked for a time, got a team of horses, did some freighting and homesteaded a quarter section of land. He now owns 480 acres of land, clear of all incumbrances, and has wheat, oats, barley and hay, as well as a good number of horses, cattle and hogs, feeding rough grain to the stock. He is a firm believer in mixed farming. The fifty dollars that he first earned in the country has now increased to \$25,000. He has never had a crop failure. Instances of this kind could be repeated over and over again.

There is a Dane, named Key, east of Saskatoon, whose oats this year went 110 bushels to the acre, and his wheat 40 bushels. He has paid off the mortgage on his farm, and now contemplates a trip to Denmark to visit his old home. He has no more cares or worries, but is anxious to have more of his people settle in that part. It is not only the farmer with limited means and small area of land who is doing well, and has done wonderfully in Western Canada this year, but the man with means, the man who is able to conduct successful farming on a large scale and many opportunities offer for such in Western Canada, also has increased his bank account handsomely. A farmer in Southern Alberta raised 350,000 bushels of grain in 1913, and made almost a fortune out of it. In Saskatchewan and in Manitoba it is to be heard the same story of what has been done by the farmer working a large area, which he is able to do successfully, by the use of improved farm machinery, enabling him to cut hundreds of acres a day, and plow the land immediately with large traction outfits. No better recommendation could be given the country than the fact that during the past year, upwards of 400,000 settlers arrived in Canada, the greater number of whom went to the farm. There are still many thousands of homesteads still available, capable of producing such crops and maintaining such herds as has made rich men out of the thousands whose experiences could be reproduced were it necessary.—Advertiser.

**The Main Point.**  
He (wearily)—Oh, my dear, I have such a fearful headache this morning! She (fiercely)—Where did you get it?

**Gowns of the Season.**  
"I see the latest in styles is the cataract gown."  
"Yes; the very thing for the fall season."

**Just Qualified.**  
"I don't like that fellow. He is an inveterate kicker."  
"Ha! Just the man for our football team."

**A Reservation.**  
"Do you believe in the uplift?"  
"Of humanity in general; yes; of the human unity in general, no."

**Paradoxical.**  
"Bob roundly denounced Bill."  
"Yes, but he did it on the square."

Girls wouldn't be prudes if it wasn't for the fact that they know too much.

A pessimist would rather be a wet blanket than be able to set the world on fire.

There are things that money won't buy—because nobody will have them.

There is no such word as can't to the man in the canning business.

The henpecked man often takes it out on the employees at the office.

Why are other women proud of their husbands?

**Pain in Back and Rheumatism**  
are the daily torment of thousands. To effectually cure these troubles you must remove the cause. Foley Kidney Pills begin to work for you from the first dose, and exert so direct and beneficial an action in the kidneys and bladder that the pain and torment of kidney trouble soon disappears.

FOR SALE in small tracts, 10,000 acres richly drained corn, wheat, cotton, clover, sorghum, etc., in southern Missouri; the Mississippi River flows 200 feet above; easy terms. Owner, Star Ranch Co., Nashville, Mo.

PHYSICOTHERAPY—the drugless, knifeless Naturo-Gene, guaranteed, simple, individual advice given constitution, indigestion, nervous ailments. Physiotherapeutic Ass'n, 115 N. Grand, St. Louis, Mo.

OVER 100 YEARS OLD  
**Pettit's Eye Salve**

**PISOT'S REMEDY**  
Don't Cough Syrup, Tastes Good, Has No Harm, Sold by Druggists.  
**FOR COUGHS AND COLDS**